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VII. CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A fluid irradiation apparatus for the modification of viruses and bacteria, comprising:
- 2 a housing having an exterior side and an interior side, the interior side further defining
- 3 an enclosure;
- 4 an irradiation station affixed to the housing;
- 5 a cuvette positioned across the irradiation station;
- at least two ultraviolet light sources positioned adjacent to the cuvette;
- 7 means for drawing and transporting fluid through the cuvette;
- 8 means for receiving the fluid transported and irradiated through the cuvette;
- 9 means for enclosing the cuvette and irradiation station when the fluid irradiation
- 10 apparatus is in use for minimizing the escape of ultraviolet light radiation; and
- means for energizing the fluid irradiation apparatus.
- 1 2. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the cuvette is made of a quartz
- 2 crystal material.
- 1 3. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the cuvette is made of a durable
- 2 plastic material.

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- 1 4. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the at least two ultraviolet light
- 2 sources are, when in use, positioned on opposite sides of the cuvette.
- 1 5. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein one ultraviolet light source is
- 2 mounted in the enclosure and the other ultraviolet light source is mounted in a cover.
- 1 6. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the at least two ultraviolet light
- 2 sources are calibrated in the UVA, UVB, or UVC light transmission band widths.
- 1 7. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the at least two ultraviolet light
- 2 sources are calibrated between 40 and 400 nano meters.
- 1 8. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the means for drawing and
- 2 transporting fluid through the cuvette is by a peristaltic pump.
- 1 9. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the means for drawing and
- 2 transporting fluid through the cuvette is by an ivac bottle.

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- 1 10. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the means for receiving the fluid
- 2 transported and irradiated through the cuvette is a bottle.
- 1 11. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 5 wherein the means for enclosing the cuvette
- 2 and irradiation station when the fluid irradiation apparatus is in use is the cover.
- 1 12. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 1 and further comprising an on/off power
- 2 switch, an on/off pump control switch, and an ultraviolet light control switch.

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A fluid irradiation apparatus for the modification of viruses and bacteria contained in 1 13. 2 fluid, comprising: a housing having an exterior side and an interior side, the exterior side further defining 3 an aperture and the interior side further defining a hollow center; 4 5 a cuvette positioned across substantially the surface area of the aperture and aligned 6 in a substantially parallel relationship with the housing; 7 a first ultraviolet light source located within the hollow center of the interior side of 8 the housing and positioned parallel to the cuvette; 9 a cover having an exterior side and an interior side, the interior side further defining 10 a chamber; 11 a second ultraviolet light source located within the chamber; means for receiving the fluid transported through the cuvette; 12 13 means for transporting the fluid through the cuvette into the means for receiving the 14 fluid; means for returning the fluid back through the cuvette from the means for receiving 15 16 the fluid; 17 whereby, the fluid transferred through the same cuvette is irradiated in at least two

separate instances by both the first and second ultraviolet light sources.

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- 1 14. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 and further comprising a means for
- 2 drawing the fluid through the cuvette.
- 1 15. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 and further comprising a means for
- 2 enclosing the cuvette when the fluid irradiation apparatus is in use.
- 1 16. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 and further comprising a means for
- 2 controlling the operation of the fluid irradiation apparatus.
- 1 17. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 and further comprising a faceplate that is
- 2 fitted within the aperture in the exterior side of the housing.
- 1 18. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the further comprising a lens for
- 2 covering the second ultraviolet light source.
- 1 19. The fluid irradiation apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the second ultraviolet light source
- 2 is positioned, when in use, on the opposite side of the cuvette from the first ultraviolet light
- 3 source.

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22 1 20. A method for modifying viruses and bacteria from fluid in the body, comprising the 2 steps of: 3 (a) providing a fluid irradiation apparatus consisting of a housing and an 4 irradiation station in the housing: 5 (b) removing fluid from the body and depositing the fluid into a conduit: transporting the removed fluid from the body along the conduit and into a 6 (c) 7 cuvette; 8 (d) irradiating the removed fluid at the irradiation station within the cuvette by at 9 least two ultraviolet light sources; 10 (e) transporting the irradiated fluid from the cuvette along the conduit and 11 depositing the irradiated fluid into a container; 12 (f) removing the irradiated fluid from the container and depositing the fluid back 13 into the conduit; 14 (g) transporting the irradiated fluid back through the same conduit and back into 15 the same cuvette; 16 (h) irradiating the irradiated fluid within the cuvette by the at least two ultraviolet 17 light sources to produce a second irradiated fluid; 18 (i) transporting the second irradiated fluid back through the same conduit from 19 the cuvette; 20 (j) returning the second irradiated fluid into the body.

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- 1 21. The method of Claim 20 and the additional step of directing ultraviolet radiation from
- 2 the at least two ultraviolet light sources at the cuvette.
- 1 22. A method for modifying viruses and bacteria from fluid in the body, comprising the
- 2 steps of:
- 3 (a) transporting fluid through a conduit into a cuvette;
- 4 (b) providing a plurality of ultraviolet light sources at the cuvette;
- 5 (c) irradiating the fluid in the cuvette as it passes the plurality of ultraviolet light
- 6 sources to produce a first irradiated fluid;
- 7 (d) reversing the directional flow of the fluid to pass back through the same
- 8 cuvette; and
- 9 (e) irradiating the first irradiated fluid as it passes the plurality of ultraviolet light
- sources a second time to produce a second irradiated fluid.